



# BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION  
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
(518) 474-0479

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994.

133 S. Fitzhugh St.  
YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

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## IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE/HAMLET: North Greece
3. STREET LOCATION: 635 North Greece Road
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒ P.O. Box 164
5. PRESENT OWNER: George & Pamela Dewitt ADDRESS: N. Greece, NY 14515
6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐  
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

## DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐  
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☒ g. stucco ☐ other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Roof = asphalt shingles. Foundation = cast concrete block.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☐  
(if known) b. wood frame with light members ☒  
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐  
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This has original shingles, but they've enclosed the front porch. This is a rather modest building on its own - I'd give it a 'green.' " P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Green





14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☐ b. zoning ☒ c. roads ☒  
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐  
f. other: \_\_\_\_\_
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☐  
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☒ f. greenhouse ☐  
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐  
i. landscape features: mature deciduous & coniferous trees/shrubs  
j. other: \_\_\_\_\_
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐  
c. scattered buildings ☐  
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☒  
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒  
h. other: \_\_\_\_\_
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:  
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1924 (per owner & date stone)

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: residential

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11c.

The front porch has been enclosed; two sets of 5-windows each extend across the facade with a wood-shingle wall beneath them and a wood-and-glass storm door on the south elevation.

Spring, 1981, the single-width, driveway was installed (there was no previous driveway on this property). In September, 1994, a wider, asphalt (black topped) driveway was installed, during which they removed the sidewalk along the south side of the house.

April, 1993: the original cedar roof shingles (still extant) were covered by contemporary asphalt shingles. The new shingles are Elk-brand, fiber-&-asphalt material with a 30-year material warranty.

November, 1989: the kitchen was remodeled. The original kitchen consisted of a porcelain wash board sink and metal cabinet (white) and gray asphalt tile floor. The new kitchen consists of oak wood cabinets with oak veneer counter top and stainless steel sink, a ceiling fan/light fixture, and Tarket tile flooring.

July, 1991: the bathroom was remodeled. The original bathroom had a claw-footed bath tub, standard brand, wall-hung sink, original wood medicine cabinet and gray asphalt floor tile. The new bathroom bath tub/shower unit (exterior window was removed to allow this installation), 17" x 19" oak vanity with cultured marble sink, medicine chest with mirror, new ceramic tile in entire tub and shower surround (extends up to the ceiling), new Tarket tile floor, new wall paper, Colonial moldings, and Colonial double-globe crystal light fixture over medicine chest.

17. Located in the North Greece hamlet, this 1924 house is situated on the west side of North Greece Road in the northwest quadrant of the town. Located just south of the main, four-corners of the hamlet (intersection of North Greece and Latta Roads), the house faces east. A 1994 driveway is located to the south of the house and leads to a contemporary, non-contributing, gambrel-roof storage shed (c. 1980s-90s). To the north of the house is the Phelps Store Building and the commercial section of the hamlet. To the east, south, and west is a small residential area of 19th and 20th century houses.

18. This one-and-one-half-story residence has wood shingle siding and a rock-faced, cast concrete block foundation. It features a broad-pitched, side-gable roof with gabled-roof front and rear (west) dormers. The fenestration is asymmetrical with 6/1, double-hung windows and several small, six-pane, fixed sash. A brick chimney is located on the west slope of the gabled roof. The broadly-pitched main roof and dormer roofs include wide, overhanging eaves with triangular, wood, knee braces and decorative stick-work in the peaks of the north, south, east (dormer) and west (dormer) gables. A small, gabled entrance hood with decorative curved brackets and stick-work trim is located on the south elevation.

Originally an open porch, the front porch has been enclosed with two bands of five windows (each) on the upper half and a solid knee wall clad with wood shingles on the lower half. A six-pane, wood storm door and wood porch steps are located on the south elevation.

The present owners have provided an extensive description of the interior. It follows: "The interior construction features plaster walls, original hardwood flooring throughout the entire house (except kitchen and bathroom), and gumwood trim with oak stairs. The front door is solid wood with a leaded glass window. The windows in the house are the original Anderson, anchor-weighted wood sash throughout the house."

"The heating system is hot water/radiator heat. Patches in the wall indicate at one time a wood stove heated the house."

"The six-room house includes a living room, formal dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, and a bathroom."

"Of special interest: the light fixture in the master bedroom is original; it has a small, hand-painted, floral, glass globe. The front porch has wainscoting on the lower walls beneath the windows and a tongue-and-groove, wainscotted ceiling. At the bottom of the main staircase is a wood seat with a storage area; it matches the gumwood trim. Three windows in the dining room open out onto the porch; during summer months they give good circulation to cool the living room."

In April, 1994, the present owners removed from the side of the driveway, two 40-foot Norwegian maple trees, which were planted by the original owners. They had become diseased and rotted due to damage caused by the March, 1991 ice storm.

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20. Built in 1924, this house is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as a distinctive example of early 20th-century, Bungalow-style residential architecture. The house retains a significant degree of integrity of design, materials, and craftsmanship. It is also significant historically as an example of the early 20th-century development of the North Greece hamlet, as well as for its association with the Adams family, who were early settlers in this hamlet.

This residence is an example of the once-popular Craftsman Bungalow style of the early 1900s. The Craftsman Bungalow houses were inspired primarily by the work of two California brothers - Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene - who practiced together in Pasadena from 1893 to 1914. Several influences - the English Arts and Crafts movement, and interest in oriental wooden architecture, and their early training in the manual arts - appear to have led the Greenes to design and build intricately detailed buildings/houses.

These and similar residences were given extensive publicity in such magazines as House Beautiful, Good Housekeeping, Architectural Record and Ladies Home Journal, thus familiarizing the rest of the nation with the style. As a result, a flood of pattern books appeared, offering plans for Craftsman bungalows; some even offered completely pre-cut packages of lumber and detailing to be assembled by local labor. Through these vehicles, the bungalow house quickly became the most popular and fashionable smaller house in the country.

Popular c. 1905-1930, these Craftsmen Bungalow buildings come in several forms. The house at 635 North Greece Road is a side-gabled roof design. About one-third of the Craftsman Bungalow homes were constructed in this form. One-and-one-half-story examples, such as this house, commonly have full-width porches (such as seen here). Here, in acknowledgment of our northeastern climate, the porch has been enclosed.

Because of the popularity of this style in the upstate area, many examples of Craftsman Bungalow houses were constructed here from the 1910s to the 1930s. This house dates from 1924. It was built by original owner, Gordon J. Adams. A concrete slab under the stairs at the front porch has Mr. Adams' name and the date, "April 8, 1924" etched into the cement.

The 1902 county map shows a different house on this site; it

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20. continued

is a frame building with "Frank Brigham" marked as owner. The 1924 county map shows the footprint of the present house on this parcel. The owner is shown as "C.Kanousa," although the present owner and records show Gordon Adams as the original owner. The 1930 suburban directory lists Gordon J. and Myrna Adams here (no house number given). Another Adams is listed in the mid-19th-century house across the street to the east. The 1959 county map shows the present house on its rectangular lot.

The house has had only two owners during its 71-year history. The Adams family owned it until 1981. The current owners, George and Pamela Dewitt, purchased the house from the estate of Myrna J. Adams on February 2, 1981.

21. See final report for bibliography; interview with George Dewitt; written information from George & Pamela Dewitt, 10/1994.